

TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2003

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
9:00 a.m.: Morning Hour 10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Unlimited "One Minutes" Per Side	Evening

*** NOTE THAT THIS WEEK WE EXPECT IMPORTANT VOTES ON MEDICARE REFORM. ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL. PLEASE NOTIFY THE DEMOCRATIC WHIP'S FLOOR STAFF IF YOU WILL BE ABSENT.

*** MEMBERS ARE URGED TO SIGN THE CONCURRENT RECEIPT DISCHARGE PETITION AVAILABLE ON THE HOUSE FLOOR AT THE CLERK'S DESK. 191 Members have signed on.

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURE

- Suspensions (3 bills):**
- 1) **H.R. 1772** - Small Business Advocacy Improvement Act of 2003 (*Rep. Akin - Small Business*)
 - 2) **H.R. 923** - Premier Certified Lenders Program Improvement Act of 2003 (*Rep. Doolittle - Small Business*)
 - 3) **H.R. 1416** - Homeland Security Technical Corrections Act (*Rep. Cox -Homeland*)

- Rolled Suspension Vote (1 bill):**
- 1) **H.R. 1460** - Veterans Entrepreneurship Act of 2003 (*Rep. Renzi - Veterans' Affairs*)
- H.R. 2555 - Fiscal Year 2004 Homeland Security Appropriations** (*Rep. Rogers {KY} - Appropriations*) (*Subject to a Rule*)

*** Possible:
Martial Law Rule for same day consideration of a Rule for the Intelligence Authorization bill.
RULE for consideration of the Intelligence Authorization bill (H.R. 2417).

BILL SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

H.R. 2555 - Fiscal Year 2004 Homeland Security Appropriations (Rep. Rogers {KY} - Appropriations) (Subject to a Rule). This bill provides \$30.4 billion for operations and activities of the Department of Homeland Security in FY04 and permits the Department of Homeland Security to use an additional \$4.8 billion in immigration and air passenger user fees. New appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security include \$14.85 billion for border and transportation security (\$5.08 billion for the Customs and Border Protection Bureau, \$2.99 billion for the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, \$3.1 billion for the Transportation Security Administration, and \$3.5 billion of the Office of Domestic Preparedness); \$5.1 billion for emergency preparedness and response; \$6.68 billion for the U.S. Coast Guard; \$1.15 billion for the Secret Service; \$776 million for information analysis and infrastructure protection; \$900 million for science and technology; and \$248 million for citizenship and immigration services.

The Rules Committee has recommended an open rule that provides for one hour of general debate; waives all points of order against consideration of the bill; and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Under the rule, only amendments that do not require waivers of points of order are permitted.

Democratic amendments not made in order under this rule include an amendment by Rep. Obey that would provide an additional \$1 billion to help fill critical homeland security deficiencies, and amendments by Rep. Edwards and Rep. Jackson-Lee to clarify that the Department of Homeland Security may not be used for political purposes.

Daily Quote...

"The House proposal would replace Medicare's guaranteed coverage with a guarantee only that the elderly would get a sum of money to buy whatever kind of benefits - at whatever price - private insurers choose to offer. Those who want traditional fee-for-service Medicare would be forced to pay higher premiums. So at least now we know the drug plan, skimpy and fraught with uncertainties, is merely a cover for achieving former House Speaker Newt Gingrich's dream of forcing Medicare to 'wither on the vine.'"

- Marie Cocco, Newsday, 6/23/03